

the State Under its General Police Power." Antiquated and poor laws, and lack of political interest in things pertaining to public health, were strongly pointed out. The public and the politicians should be educated up to the importance of these matters. This can best be done by a solid organization of the medical profession, making properly directed efforts. Prof. Rising read a paper on "Food Adulteration," which was most timely. A very interesting discussion of the smallpox question and its relations to local and municipal conditions was quite a feature of the meeting. Much can be done if money is available, but there is great difficulty in getting proper appropriations from country authorities and the work that should be done is thus materially hindered. Dr. D. H. Currie read an excellent paper on the subject of "Rats and the Danger of Their Spreading Disease," which will be published in the next issue of the JOURNAL.

MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS.

The Boy's Venereal Peril—This is the title of a pamphlet received from Dr. F. C. Valentine of New York, and is an elaboration of a paper read before the last meeting of the A. M. A. In it Dr. Valentine strives to place a statement of the facts relating to puberty, sexual instinct, sexual desire, prostitution, etc., together with those relative to venereal disease and its consequences, before the youth of the land. It is his desire to so prepare a bald and unattractive statement of things which are too often left to the boy to discover for himself, that it may be placed in the hands of the boy or young man and may help to lead him away from vice and to remain clean. That every developing boy should receive just this sort of information at the right time cannot for a moment be disputed. Nor can the wisdom of the effort to get such statements in simple language into the hands of those who should read them be questioned. The only criticism I should make is that Dr. Valentine has largely failed in his purpose by overshooting the mark. He forgets that there are many sorts of boys; many kinds of young men; many good, clean and excellent people who would not agree with him in the statement that a man, to be a man, should neither smoke nor drink alcoholic beverages. He shows a lack of appreciation of relative values in this, and in his remarks anent prostitutes and prostitution; a more intimate knowledge of facts and a more sympathetic appreciation of the real actualities of life would moderate some of these remarks of his and be productive of a better, because a more nearly accurate, presentation of the case. It is to be hoped that further efforts will be made and a still better pamphlet produced.—P. M. J.

Cytolysins in Serum—A report from Drs. Flexner and Noguchi on their investigations of serums, conducted under grant from the Carnegie Institution, at the Pathological Laboratory of the University of Pennsylvania, is published in the July-August number of the *Univ. Penna. Med. Bulletin*. The title is "On the Plurality of Cytolysins in Normal Blood Serum," and the report deals with investigations of the blood of the dog, ox, rattlesnake and mudpuppy. The same publication also contains a kindred paper by these investigators "On the Plurality of Cytolysins in Snake Venom," in which experiments the venoms of cobra, water-moccasin, rattlesnake, daboia and habu were used. The last named snake is Japanese, sent in by Kitasoto, and the daboia, like the cobra, in an Indian

species. "The analysis of venom given . . . indicates an interesting complexity of structure, in virtue of which the solvent action of venom upon different animal cells is shown to be due not to the presence of a single substance, but to a number of principles which are distinct from one another."

The *Journal of Cutaneous Diseases* is the name adopted last month by the Grafton Press, publishers, 70 Fifth Ave., New York, of their journal, which heretofore included in the title, genito-urinary diseases. Dr. A. D. Newborn of New York is the acting editor, with whom are associated eight prominent physicians in different parts of the country.

The publication of a daily medical journal under the editorship of Dr. Albert Warren Ferris, editor of the *Medical Critic*, is projected by the Medical Publishing Company of America, 154 East Seventy-second Street, New York City. It is certainly a large undertaking and at the present time it is difficult to foresee the ready fulfillment of the promises outlined in the prospectus at hand. We wish the promoters every success in their undertaking and we earnestly hope that they may keep themselves and their paper entirely free from the influence of desirable nostrum advertisers, and all other such-like quacks. Those who may desire further information will probably get it by addressing the company as above. The publishers offer to send the *Daily Medical Journal* and the *Medical Critic* to subscribers for one dollar, paid in advance.

Pamphlets and Reprints.

"Hyoscine in the Treatment of Morphinism," by T. D. Crothers, M. D., Hartford, Conn. (Reprinted from *Therapeutic Gazette*.)

"A Pharmacological Study of an Aseptic Preparation of Ergot for Hypodermic and Internal Administration," by E. M. Houghton, Ph. C., M. D., Detroit, Mich. (Reprinted from the *Therapeutic Gazette*.)

Medical Examining Board of New Jersey—The New Jersey examining board now requires academic as well as medical training, for admission to examination. A certificate of four years in a normal or high school of the first grade, or its equivalent in work, is demanded. Some such requisite should be demanded here in California, for the "English" (Heaven save the word!) that appears in some of the examination papers is certainly "fierce"! It is utterly absurd to allow anyone to undertake high grade professional work unless he has had the proper academic as well as professional training.

Liability When Riding on Pass—In the U. S. Circuit Court for the District of Maine, the court, in *Duncan vs. Maine Central Railroad Company*, held that a person riding on a pass given without consideration, and after assenting to the condition that he should assume all risk of accident, and that the carrier should not be liable, cannot recover from the railway for injuries received caused by the negligence of its servants. It was also decided in this case that it was immaterial that the giving of the pass was a breach of the Act to Regulate Commerce.—Abs., from *Railway Journal*.